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Message Text

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61
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER:JU
APPROVED BY IO:JMCDONALD
L/UNA - JWILLIS
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P 1,0106Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJ: UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: ITEM 19:HIP
"SWEDISH AMENDMENT" RE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP

REF: DOCUMENT 18 C/18

1. DEL. REQUEST ED TO SUPPORT SWEDISH AMENDMENT WHICH REPRESENTS EFFORT TO FORMALIZE PRESENT DE FACTO SITUATION IN WHICH INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS SERVE AS GOVERNMENT REPS. IN OUR VIEW, SWEDISH PROPOSAL WOULD PROVIDE MORE REALISTIC REPRESENTATION; REMEDY PRESENT ANOMALY WHICH PERMITS A BOARD MEMBER WHO HAS LOST CONFIDENCE OF HIS GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE ON BOARD AND TAKE POSITIONS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WILL NOT SUPPORT AT GENERAL CONFERENCE; AND HELP TO STIMULATE INTEREST OF GOVERNMENTS IN BOARD'S WORK AND IN STRENGTHENING BOARD'S ROLE, ESPECIALLY VIS-A-VIS SECRETARIAT. IT WOULD ALSO ENABLE INCUMENTS OF U. S. AND THE OTHER FOUR COUNTRIES "PERMANENTLY"
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REPRESENTED ON BOARD TO SUCCEED THEMSELVES.

2. WE DO NOT SHARE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY SOME MEMBERS THAT ADOPTION OF SWEDISH AMENDMENT WOULD DESTROY ROTATION PRINCIPLE. WE SEE NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD AS LONG AS GENERAL CONFERENCE CONTINUES TO AGREE THAT THIS PRINCIPLE IS VALID AND USEFUL. THERE IS, IN FACT, NO PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL IMPEDIMENT TO A MEMBER STATE SUCCEEDING ITSELF ON BOARD AS LONG AS A DIFFERENT INDIVIDUAL IS APPOINTED, AND THIS HAS HAPPENED IN PAST, AS DEL IS AWARE.

3. QUESTION OF QUALITY OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED TO BOARD IS A MATTER OF LEGITIMATE CONCERN, PARTICULARLY AS A REFLECTION OF MEMBER STATES' INTEREST IN AND REGARD FOR UNESCO, BUT IT IS MOST UNLIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY ADOPTION OF SWEDISH AMENDMENT.

4. ADOPTION OF SWEDISH PROPOSAL IS ALSO UNLIKELY, AS SOME MEMBERS HAVE PREDICTED, TO LEAD TO DEMAND FOR INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF PRESENT INFORMAL SYSTEM OF PERMANENT SEATS. SUCH A DEMAND WOULD APPEAR LIKELY TO ARISE ONLY IF SYSTEM APPEARED TO BE THREATENED, AND SWEDISH AMENDMENT DOES NOT POSE SUCH THREAT. KISSINGER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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